

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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FEATURING: ▶ **Agricultural Prices** ▶ **Corn Chemical Usage** ▶ **Cold Storage** ▶ **Farm Labor**
 ▶ **Milk Production** ▶ **Cattle on Feed** ▶ **Egg Production** ▶ **Slaughter**

GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK PRICES IMPROVE

Prices received by **Kentucky** farmers at mid-month were up for grains and most livestock commodities.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over at mid-May averaged \$75.00 per cwt. This was \$1.00 above April, but \$10.00 below a year earlier. Prices received for **beef cows** were \$2.00 above April at \$42.00 per cwt. The mid-May price was \$3.00 below a year earlier. **Calves** under 500 lbs. averaged \$89.00 per cwt., the same as the previous month and \$10.00 below a year earlier.

Barrow and gilt price for mid-May at \$33.00 per cwt. was up \$3.00 from April while down \$15.00 from a year earlier. **Sows** averaged \$23.00 per cwt., down \$1.00 from a month earlier and \$16.00 from May 2001. Sow prices are at their lowest since September 1999.

The **all milk** price was \$13.30 per cwt., down 10 cents from April and \$3.30 from a year earlier. This was the lowest milk price since April 2000.

The mid-May **corn** price was \$2.10 per bushel, up 11 cents from the April price while down 2 cents from a year earlier. Prices received for **soybeans** was \$4.75 per bushel at mid-month, up 6 cents from April. The May 2001 price was \$4.47 per bushel. The mid-May soybean price was highest in 9 months. **Winter wheat** prices averaged \$2.75 per bushel at mid-May. This was up 17 cents from April and 35 cents from a year earlier.

The Preliminary **U.S.** All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May was 98, based on 1990-92=100, up 3 points (3.2 percent) from the revised April index. Higher prices for broilers, potatoes, hogs, and oranges more than offset lower prices for lettuce, cattle, milk, and cucumbers. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for cantaloupe, grapes, sweet corn, and peaches more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, milk, apples and asparagus.

Compared with May last year, the All Farm Products Index was down 10 points (9.3 percent). Lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle, and cucumbers more than offset higher prices for potatoes, strawberries, corn, and soybeans.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY			US
		MAY 2001	APR 2002	MAY 2002	MAY 2002
		Entire Month		Mid-Month <u>a/</u>	
All Corn <u>b/</u> <u>c/</u>	Bu.	2.08	1.99	2.10	1.97
Soybeans <u>b/</u>	Bu.	4.47	4.69	4.75	4.62
Winter Wheat <u>b/</u>	Bu.	2.40	2.58	2.75	2.72
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	100.00	95.00	95.00	108.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	58.00	52.00	55.00	76.70
All Hogs	Cwt.	47.60	29.80	32.60	34.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	48.00	30.00	33.00	35.00
Sows	Cwt.	39.00	24.00	23.00	23.80
All Beef Cattle <u>d/</u>	Cwt.	75.40	65.80	67.10	66.10
Steers & Heifers <u>e/</u>	Cwt.	85.00	74.00	75.00	69.30
Cows	Cwt.	45.00	40.00	42.00	40.20
Calves <u>f/</u>	Cwt.	99.00	89.00	89.00	98.90
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	16.60	13.40	13.30	12.30
Fluid <u>g/</u>	Cwt.	16.70	10.10	--	12.40
Manufactured	Cwt.	11.00	13.40	--	11.30
Hog-Corn Ratios <u>h/</u>	Bu.	22.9	15.0	15.5	17.5

a/Preliminary. b/Includes contract sales paid during month. c/Includes yellow and white corn. d/"Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. e/500 lbs. and over. f/ Under 500 lbs. g/Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. h/Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 3.90 billion pounds in April, up 11 percent from the 3.51 billion pounds produced in April 2001 and a new record high for April. April 2001 contained 21 weekdays and 4 Saturdays. April 2002 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.19 billion pounds, was 13 percent above the previous year and a new record high for April. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.95 million head, up 9 percent from April 2001. The average live weight was 1,227 pounds, up 41 pounds from April a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.67 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year and a new record high for April. Hog kill totaled 8.43 million head, 8 percent above April 2001. The average live weight was 267 pounds, up 2 pounds from April a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: U. S. & KENTUCKY 1/

Type	April 2001	March 2002	April 2002	April 02 % of	
				April 2001	March 2002
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	1,939	2,059	2,194	113	107
Veal	15.2	15.0	16.1	106	107
Pork	1,533	1,581	1,673	109	106
Lamb & Mutton	20.2	22.3	19.1	95	86
Total U.S.	3,507	3,677	3,902	111	106
Total Kentucky	32.0	35.3	36.8	115	105

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. APRIL 2001 & 2002 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.1	1.5	982	1,330	877	888
Hogs	157.3	180.8	41,979	48,151	267	266
Sheep & Lambs	0.6	0.8	99	109	154	142
United States						
Cattle	2,714.0	2,948.0	3,218,029	3,618,324	1,186	1,227
Hogs	7,837.4	8,427.6	2,073,307	2,253,829	265	267
Sheep & Lambs	290.8	278.3	40,613	38,352	140	138

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on April 30, 2002, were greater than year earlier levels for pork, poultry, beef, vegetables, and orange juice. Cooler stocks of pecans were also above last year.

All U.S. Warehouse Stocks				April 2002 as % of	
Commodity	April 30 2001	March 31 2002	April 30 2002	April 2001	March 2002
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken:					
Broilers (Whole)	13,639	29,307	30,348	223	104
Other Chicken	633,397	773,263	816,608	128	105
Total Chicken <u>1/</u>	654,383	807,495	851,217	130	105
Turkey	392,606	456,305	512,038	130	112
Total Frozen Poultry <u>2/</u>	1,053,109	1,270,510	1,370,295	130	108
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	315,344	412,398	407,493	129	99
Pork:					
Bellies	43,878	60,721	63,185	144	104
Total Frozen Pork <u>3/</u>	432,604	530,862	565,365	131	106
Total Meat <u>4/</u>	771,405	962,718	995,544	129	103

1/ Includes broilers, hens and other chickens. 2/ Includes chicken, turkey and ducks. 3/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 4/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

APRIL ALL HIRED WAGE RATE HIGHER

There were 1.08 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of April 7-13, 2002, up 6 percent from a year ago. There were 890,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 189,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 8.8 percent of the April hired workforce compared with 8.9 percent in April 2001.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.83 per hour during the April 2002 survey week, up 52 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.06 per hour, up 45 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned

\$8.43 per hour compared with \$8.01 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 44 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers in the 3-State Region including Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia totaled 23,000 during the week of April 7-13, 2002. This compares to 27,000 hired workers for the same time period a year ago. Wage rates for these workers averaged \$7.63 per hour, up 32 cents per hour from 2001. Field workers earned an average \$6.89 per hour compared to \$6.85 per hour last year. Livestock workers were paid an average of \$7.87 per hour, up 51 cents per hour from a year ago.

APRIL MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for April 2002 totaled 153 million pounds, up 1 percent from April 2001 and unchanged from March 2002. Average number of milk cows on farms at 123,000 head, was down 5,000 head from a year earlier but unchanged from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,240 pounds, up 60 pounds from April 2001, but down 5 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the 20 major States during April totaled 12.5 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent from

April 2001. March revised production, at 12.8 billion pounds, was up 3.1 percent from March 2001. The March revision represented a decrease of 7 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,614 pounds for April, 43 pounds above April 2001. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 12,000 head more than April 2001, and 8,000 head more than March 2002.

U. S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.96 million head on May 1, 2002. The inventory was 2 percent below May 1, 2001 but slightly above May 1, 2000. **Placements** in feedlots during April totaled 1.45 million, 6 percent below 2001 and 15 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.37 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 210,000, 600-699 pounds were 255,000, 700-799 pounds were 512,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 476,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during April totaled 1.99 million, 10 percent above 2001 and 6 percent above 2000. **Other disappearance** totaled 83,000 during April, 7 percent below 2001 and 8 percent below 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED 7 STATES 1/

Cattle on feed May 1, 2002, in the 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.39 million, down 2 percent from the previous year and down slightly from May 1, 2000. **Placements** in feedlots during April totaled 1.24 million, 7 percent below 2001 and 16 percent below 2000. **Marketings** during April totaled 1.71 million, 11 percent above 2001 and 7 percent above 2000. **Other disappearance** during April was 71,000 head, 4 percent below 2001 but unchanged from 2000.

1/AZ, CA, CO, IA, KS, NE, and TX.

2001 AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USE FOR KENTUCKY

The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report refer to on-farm use of chemicals on corn for the 2001 crop year. Farm and ranch operators were enumerated late in the growing season or after the farm operator had indicated that planned applications were completed.

CORN: AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, KENTUCKY, 2001 1/

Agricultural Chemical	Area Applied	Applications	Rate per Application	Rate per Crop Year	Total Applied
	Percent	Number	Pounds per Acre		1,000 Lbs
Herbicides:					
Acetochlor	5	1.0	1.89	1.92	107
Atrazine	84	1.1	1.48	1.63	1,635
Glyphosate	11	1.0	0.72	0.75	96
Imazapyr	23	1.0	0.002	0.002	1
Imazethapyr	23	1.0	0.006	0.006	2
Metolachlor	8	1.0	1.37	1.37	133
Nicosulfuron	9	1.0	0.02	0.02	2
Paraquat	18	1.0	0.53	0.53	114
Primisulfuron	6	1.0	0.03	0.03	2
Rimsulfuron	3	1.0	0.008	0.008	*
S-Metolachlor	36	1.0	1.24	1.24	533
Simazine	8	1.0	1.11	1.11	104
Insecticides:					
Lambda-	8	1.0	0.01	0.01	1
Permethrin	4	1.0	0.10	0.10	5

1/Planted acres in 2001 for Kentucky were 1.20 million acres. *Total applied is less than 1,000 lbs.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Item	April 2001	April 2002	April '02 as % of April '01
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,099	7,081	100
Average Layers (000)	337,139	335,795	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,106	2,109	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set May 1 (000)	36,554	35,952	98
Chicks Hatched (000)	42,768	38,212	89
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set May 1 (000)	644,654	649,526	101
Chicks Hatched (000)	755,455	764,982	101

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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